

LPD Community Engagement Activities/Programs

Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club - Badges for Baseball, Badges for Basketball, and Fun Fridays

The LPD has been heavily involved with the Boys and Girls Club for roughly 8 years now. Badges for Baseball (starting our 8th year) and Badges for Basketball (just completed our 4th year) were started in partnership with the Club as a way to establish relationships and mentor the kids in a positive environment. Badges for Baseball is a summer program that runs from mid-June through mid-August, while the Badges for Basketball runs from early January through early April. Fun Fridays is also a summer program (mid-June – mid-August) where officers go to the Boys and Girls Club and serve lunch to the youth and spend time with them. Over 100 young people are involved in these programs. The Boys and Girls Club has been a tremendous partner - they are an outstanding organization!

Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign

The LPD has staffed a red kettle (11 hours per day throughout the Christmas season) as part of the Salvation Army's Annual Christmas Kettle Campaign for the past 7 years. This fundraising campaign certainly impacts the entire community in a positive way and provides us with an opportunity to engage with citizens at the kettle. Last year the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign (greater Lynchburg area) raised over \$246,000!

Citizen's Police Academy

The LPD is currently conducting our 25th session of the Citizen's Police Academy. This is a 9-week program where we provide local citizens with an in-depth view of the LPD and the law enforcement profession. Four Teacher's Police Academies and one LPD Spouse's Police Academy have also been conducted.

Neighborhood Watch Program

We currently have 63 active neighborhood watches – soon to be 64. This continues to be a vital community partnership and serves as a great example of our community policing philosophy.

Books and Badges; Kids and Cops Reading Program

This is a partnership with the Lynchburg City Schools and for over 8 years LPD officers spent time reading to students at R.S. Payne Elementary on selected days throughout the school year. This provided us with another opportunity to spend time with young children in a positive environment. Though this program has been successful, it was also limited to just one school. We are not currently involved in this program this year but we are considering speaking with LCS about the possibility of partnering in a literary campaign, which would include all of the public schools.

Criminology Class at E.C. Glass High School

In partnership with LCS, the LPD has implemented a Criminology Class at E.C. Glass High School this year. There are currently 25 students enrolled in the class (both students at E.C. Glass and Heritage). This is a 2-year program so next year we will have a Junior-level class and a Senior-level class. This class has a lot of potential and we are excited about the future.

School Resource Officers

The LPD currently has 5 SRO's on staff. They are assigned to E.C. Glass, Heritage, Dunbar, Sandusky, and Linkhorne. These officers have daily interaction and mentoring opportunities with the students at those schools.

Trailblazer Program

This is a newly established summer program in partnership with Parks and Recreation and targets inner-city youth ages 13-15. We are planning to run two 2-week sessions (8 youth per session) and we will focus on mentoring these young people with a focus on leadership skills and team-building.

Badges and Barbers

This is also a new summer program that is set to start next month. This 10-week program involves a partnership with LPD Officers and 4 local barbers. The goal is to partner LPD Officers with local barbers in mentoring kids in the community. The four barbers involved this year are Parlor on Main, Williams Barbershop, Diamond Cutz, and Hill City Cuts. Boys age 13-17 will be targeted and the curriculum will center on aspects of character-building. Once we see how successful this year's program is, and see what our available resources are (considering we are involved in a number of different summer programs) we may look to expand this a bit in the future.

Community Code Compliance Team

This program links the LPD along with other City Departments and this team conducts community walk-throughs 4 times per year in an effort to work together to address community concerns and code enforcement.

Yovaso – Youth of Virginia Speak Out

This program involves another partnership with the LCS where SROs and Traffic Safety Officers partner with local high school students to promote traffic safety issues.

Fundraising for the Jubilee Center: Jubilee Center Benefit “Tug-Of-War”

This is actually an annual benefit event for the Jubilee Center. The LPD enters a team of officers and helps raise money for this charitable organization. Last year was the first year we were involved and we look forward to competing again this year.

Chick Fil-A Safety Night

This is an annual fall event to promote safety in the community. We have Crime Prevention and Traffic Safety booths with pamphlets and give-away items. In addition, the Traffic Safety Unit conducts car seat safety checks during this event.

R.A.D. – Rape Aggression Defense

This is a defensive tactics class for women taught by LPD Officers. We have conducted numerous R.A.D. classes each year for 8 years.

Fundraising for Special Olympics

The LPD has been involved in raising funds for Special Olympics for many years through events like the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Tip-A-Cop, the Annual Guns and Hoses Softball Game, and an annual golf tournament.

American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

The LPD has been involved in this fundraising event for many years in an effort to remember loved ones and continue the fight against cancer. We have had a significant number of LPD employees impacted directly by this disease and we typically have a large number of employees involved in this event each year.

Fundraising for the United Way

Each year the LPD participates in the City's United Way Fundraising Campaign

Lynchburg Loss Prevention Association

This is a partnership involving the LPD and local business owners. This partnership began approximately 3 years ago and provides an effective means of communication between the LPD, other local law enforcement agencies, the Lynchburg Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and local business owners. To date, this group has achieved a 20% reduction in retail theft in the area.

Business/Residential Security Assessments

This is a service we have offered the community for many years. We conduct, on average, about 40-50 security assessments per year.

Other programs that the LPD is involved in on a consistent basis:

*Bicycle Safety Programs
For Kids Sake Safety Day
Day in the Park
Bowl for Kid's Sake
Regional Cop Camp for Kids
Car Seat Safety Checks*

We also have LPD Officers on a number of local civic boards to include:

*CASA Advisory Board
Salvation Army Advisory Board
The Exchange Club of Lynchburg
Mental Health Association of Central Virginia
The Lynchburg Optimist Club
Commonwealth Autism Board
Community Criminal Justice Board
Horizon Behavioral Health Board
Crisis Intervention Training Advisory Board
Central Va. Traffic Safety Board
Blue Ridge Regional Safety Board
Regional Domestic Violence Coalition
YWCA Advisory Board
FBI National Academy Associates – Virginia Chapter
FBINAA Lynchburg Alumni*